

**1287**

**MAJOR POINTS OF DISCUSSION**

**5-17-91**

**DOE/EPA**

**DOE-1359-91**

**2**

**LETTER**

**Department of Energy**

Fernald Site Office  
P.O. Box 398705  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45239-8705  
(513) 738-6319

1287

**MAY 17 1991**  
DOE-1359-91

Ms. Catherine A. McCord  
Remedial Project Manager  
U. S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Region V - 5HR-12  
230 South Dearborn Street  
Chicago, IL 60604

Mr. Graham E. Mitchell, DOE Coordinator  
Ohio Environmental Protection Agency  
40 South Main Street  
Dayton, OH 45402

Dear Ms. McCord and Mr. Mitchell:

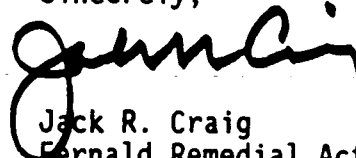
**MAJOR POINTS OF DISCUSSION**

Enclosed for your information are the major points, which were discussed during the May 3, 1991, meeting in Chicago. Included in the enclosure is additional information on K-65 activities, which was requested in the meeting.

In addition, per our discussion on May 14, 1991, I have enclosed a weekly report with a current schedule.

If you have any questions, please contact Randi Allen at (513) 738-6158 or FTS 774-6158 or me at (513) 738-6159 or FTS 774-6159.

Sincerely,

  
Jack R. Craig  
Fernald Remedial Action  
Project Manager

FSO:Allen

Enclosure: As stated

cc w/encl.:

MAY 21 1991

J. J. Fiore, EM-42, GTN  
K. A. Hayes, EM-424, GTN  
D. Kozlowski, EM-424, GTN  
L. August, GeoTrans  
K. Davidson, OEPA-Columbus  
J. A. Saric, USEPA-V, 5HR-12  
M. Butler, USEPA-V, 5CS-TUB-3  
J. Benetti, USEPA-V, 5AR-26  
E. Schuessler, PRC  
R. L. Glenn, Parsons  
W. H. Britton, WMCO  
H. F. Daugherty, WMCO  
S. W. Coyle, WMCO  
L. Bogar, WMCO  
D. Nixon, WMCO  
J. D. Wood, ASI  
AR Files

cc w/o enc.:

C. R. Holmes, USEPA-HQ  
W. E. Muno, USEPA-V, 5HR-13  
D. A. Ullrich, USEPA-V, 5H-12  
G. G. Ioannides, OEPA-Columbus

*C. Stiff*  
*Yume file 264*

*AR File*  
*ERA File*

MEETING BETWEEN DOE/U.S. EPA/STATE OF OHIO  
MAJOR POINTS OF DISCUSSION  
MAY 3, 1991

- o EPA will not concur on meeting minutes. DOE will continue to document our understanding of the outcome of meetings.
- o A status of K-65 activities was provided to EPA by DOE. EPA requested additional information on the following specific activities (information enclosed):
  - EPA requested radiological data from IT Laboratory for slant boring #1 be provided to them when available. They will then determine if a Work Plan revision is required.
  - Gross alpha and beta on the slant boring #1 analysis looks high. Check QA samples.
  - Determine where the liquid from Silo 4 will be stored after samples have been taken and before the analysis has been received from the laboratory.
  - What was left in slant boring #1 after the sampling was aborted?
  - Review existing work plan for sampling frequency of decant tank.
  - DOE should prepare a Work Plan amendment to include the sampling of hydrogen.
  - Check the Work Plan for frequency of monitoring after completion of the Removal Action.
  - EPA requested that DOE perform a pH analysis on the silo contents to check for its compatibility with the bentonite.
  - DOE shall provide information to EPA concerning the planned contingency exercise.
- o EPA and DOE agreed that additional off-site monitors are not required. Interpretation of the data will be too difficult.
- o The discussion on additional Removal Actions for the K-65 Silos will continue. DOE will continue to defer the discussion until the effectiveness of the bentonite has been determined. U.S. EPA will continue to recommend installation of a protective structure due to the inevitable extension of the ROD date.
- o DOE discussed the plan to incorporate assumptions into the revised Consent Agreement. EPA said the mechanism for schedule extensions was already in the existing agreement.
- o The next meeting of the K-65 Advisory Committee was scheduled for May 22, 1991.

**Additional Information on K-65 Activities**

- 1) Submit IT radiological data on perched groundwater to EPA.

Resolution: Upon receipt, this data will be made available to EPA. The analysis is anticipated to be complete in approximately two months.

- 2) Gross alpha and beta looks high on the WMC0 analysis of the perched groundwater from slant boring #1.

Resolution: The analysis showed less than 1.0 pCi/ml and less than 2.0 pCi/ml, respectively; below detection limits. The previous analysis provided to EPA did not indicate that the results were less than the recorded levels. A gamma scan will be performed on the water to better define the levels of contaminants.

- 3) Determine storage location of water contained in Silo 4 during analysis.

Resolution: The water now contained in Silo 4 will remain there until the analysis is available from the WMC0 lab. At that time, a determination will be made on removal of the material. It is anticipated that the rainwater will meet the NPDES requirements, and would therefore be transported to the Bionitrification Facility.

- 4) What was left in slant borings #1 and #3 after boring was discontinued due to the encounter of perched groundwater?

Resolution: The augers were left in slant borings #1 and #3.

- 5) What is the sampling frequency for the decant sump?

Resolution: Per the Decant Sump Work Plan, page 7, Section V, the decant sump will be sampled on a monthly basis for uranium, thorium, radium, and liquid measurement.

- 6) DOE is to prepare a Removal Action Work Plan amendment for sampling of hydrogen in the headspace of Silos #1 and #2.

Resolution: A separate sampling and Health and Safety Plan is being prepared to accommodate this requirement. These documents will be internally approved documents, consistent with site procedures.

- 7) Check Work Plan for radon monitoring requirements upon completion of the Removal Action.

Resolution: Per the Work Plan, Section V, pg. 13, chart data will be collected on a weekly basis and transmitted to EPA as part of the Quarterly Report.

- 8) DOE should perform a pH analysis on the silo contents to confirm compatibility with the bentonite.

Resolution: The requirement to perform a pH analysis is not included in either the Remedial Investigation Report or the Resampling Work Plan.

The analysis will be performed to support the treatability studies. It is believed that the pH of the material since its placement in the silos has not varied, significantly. When placed in the silos the residues had a pH of 7.

- 9) Provide EPA with information concerning the contingency exercise for the silos.

Resolution: The information is enclosed.

K-65 AREA WEEKLY REPORT  
MAY 16, 1991

Slant Borings

On May 4, 1991, perched groundwater was encountered while boring in the southwest area under Silo 1 (Boring 3). The perched groundwater was encountered at 53.5 feet, approximately 30 feet (horizontal distance) from the footer of Silo 1. As with Boring 1, the groundwater at Boring 3 will be sampled. The augers have been left at both locations in the event that additional sampling will be performed.

The pad is being set up for Boring 2 (under Decant Sump Tank).

Berm Sampling

Due to the recovery of only 12 feet of soils on the initial sampling effort (southwest, Silo 1), a second sample in the southwest area was taken on May 3, 1991. The second attempt resulted in an approximately 13 feet sample. We are taking three ten-foot sections in the southwest area to assure adequate material recovery. The first two sections have been extracted resulting in a 80% compacted recovery. The third section will be pulled on May 16, 1991.

Radon Treatment System

The closed loop test for the Radon Treatment System was completed on May 11, 1991. No significant leakage was identified.

Decant Sump

On May 10, 1991, the level in the Decant Sump was measured. The level of the slurry/sludge mixture has not changed since April 16, 1991; thus, there is no indication that liquid has either entered or left the tank. On May 16, 1991, a leak in the flange on the pipe leading to the tank, which contains the decant sump liquid, was detected. An evaluation is underway to determine if the flange may be repaired. Another tank is available to receive the liquid, if required.

## **HISTORY OF DECISION TO RUN K-65 SILO TABLETOP INSTEAD OF A DRILL.**

In mid March Emergency Preparedness learned that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) wanted the FMPC to conduct a full scale exercise involving the K-65 Silos within two months. This exercise would require participation by offsite agencies. On March 27, 1991 WMCO provided a recommendation to the Fernald Site Office that included a table top in lieu of the exercise.

### **WHO WAS CONTACTED?**

While preparing the response to the EPA request, Emergency Preparedness contacted Mrs. Irene H. Lewis, Director-Administrator, Butler County Emergency Management Agency; Mr. Don MacCarone, Deputy Director, Hamilton County Emergency Management Agency; and Mr. Lewis Meyers, DOE Planner, Ohio Emergency Management Agency.

### **WHY CAN'T THE AGENCIES PARTICIPATE?**

In every instance, the lead agencies had prior scheduled commitments, in some cases until the end of the fiscal year. At least one agency, Butler County Emergency Management Agency, also felt that it would be a financial burden but this was not the overriding concern. Butler County provided the following written response:

"We have a natural disaster exercise scheduled for April 27th and are now into planning the scenario and operational actions for it. We also have a chemical exercise scheduled for the first week of September, which is required, and have not yet started the planning for it. These two exercises leave very little time to keep up with the day-to-day activities and any unanticipated activity or emergency which may occur."

"We urge that this exercise be canceled or at least postponed until a more appropriate time."

Verbal responses from Hamilton County and the state of Ohio Emergency Management Agency were similar. The State had two major exercises scheduled with nuclear power plants this summer and/or fall and a full-scale exercise with Portsmouth (a DOE facility). Hamilton County had a SARA Title III drill scheduled for mid-May. These agency commitments prevent them from planning and coordinating the actions necessary to provide an effective field simulation at those agencies. Typical preparation time for a full-scale exercise is 1.5 man-years.

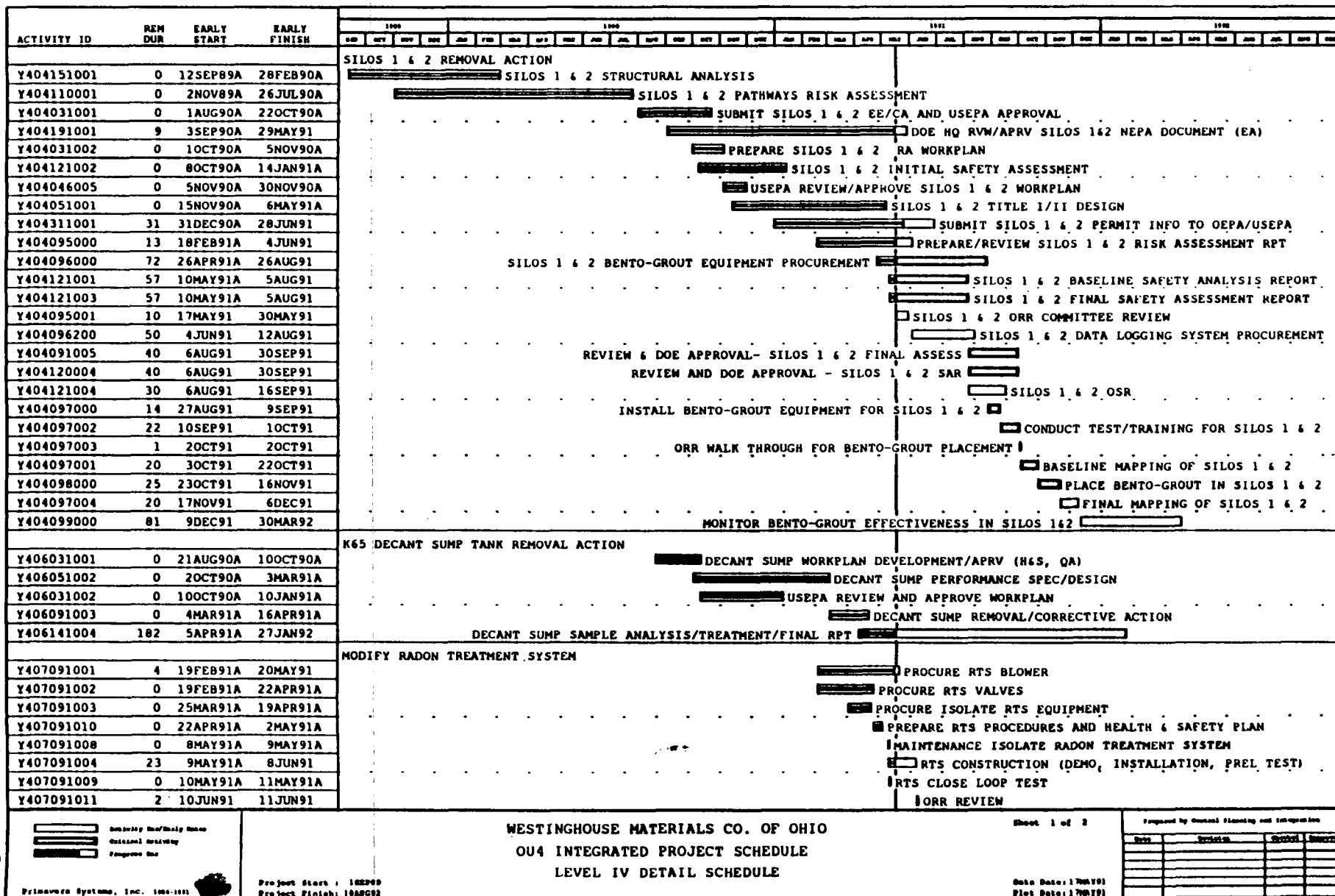


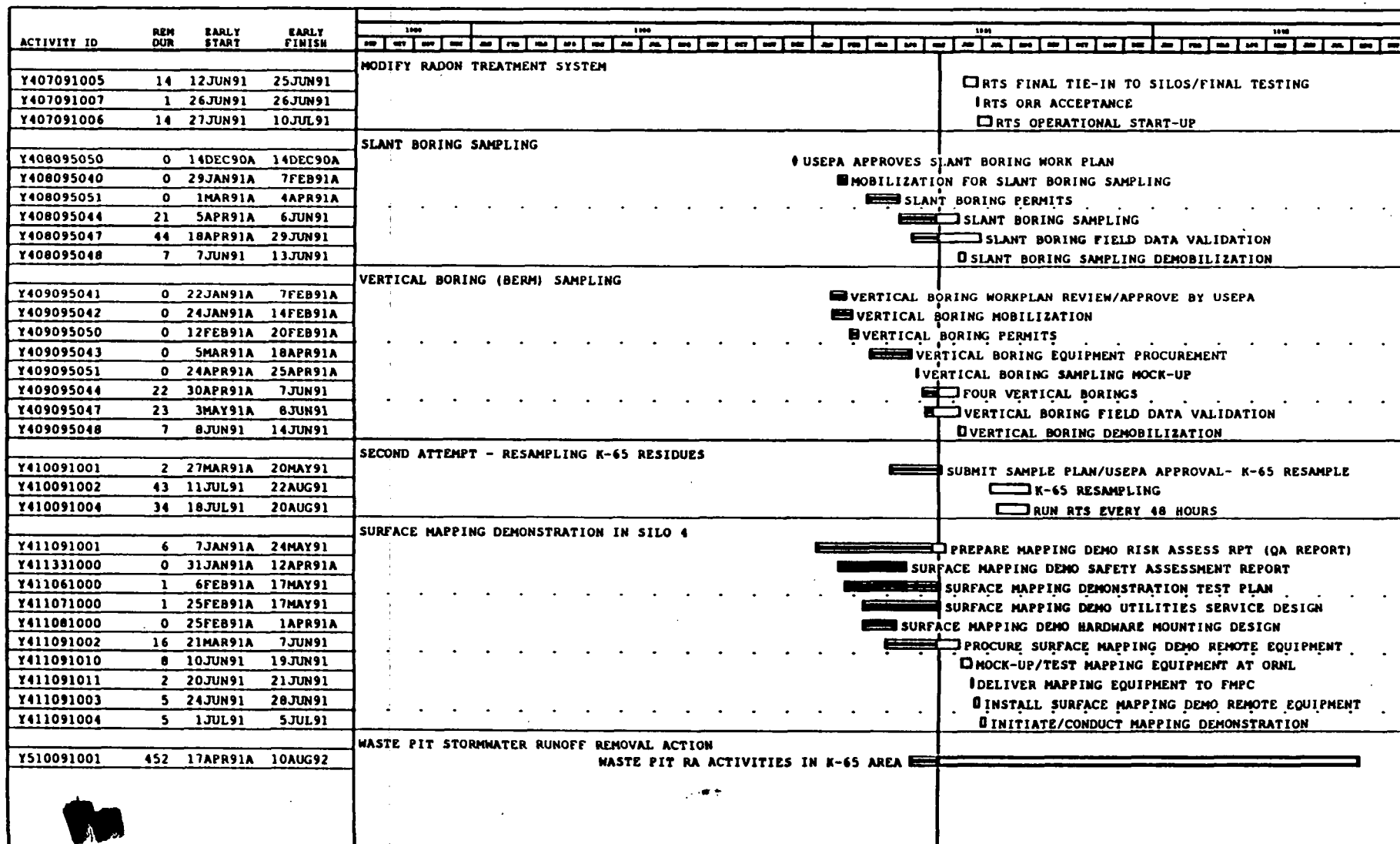
Why are we able to conduct a tabletop and not an exercise?

### WHAT IS A TABLETOP?

A tabletop is similar to a drill or exercise in that a scenario is presented and the tabletop participant's response to the scenario is evaluated. It is different in that response actions are discussed rather than executed. For our tabletop, the scenario includes prescribed questions to ensure that a major portion of the emergency response is examined and that all affected organizations, onsite and offsite, are familiar with their expected response and the response of other agencies that they work with. A moderator ensures the discussion follows its intended path. One or more evaluators record the participant's response and evaluate it against established criteria.

A tabletop, however, requires a limited amount of manpower on the part of the offsite agencies while still representing all or most of each State/County EOC's staff that would normally be involved. Instead of having all of a particular agency and its physical resources involved in a drill, a single individual represents each responding county/state agency, thus, only one person, the EOC representative, would be involved. The Counties and State felt that this level of involvement could be supported and still meet the objectives of a simulated K-65 emergency event.





☐ Activity Duration  
☐ Activity Start/End  
☐ Activity Name

WESTINGHOUSE MATERIALS CO. OF OHIO  
 OU4 INTEGRATED PROJECT SCHEDULE  
 LEVEL IV DETAIL SCHEDULE

Sheet 2 of 2

Prepared by: Michael Blumstein and Integration

Date	Activity	Status	Owner